

RESOLUTION NO. 1823

BILL NO. 31-0246

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2015

A Resolution welcoming the Legendary Rhythm Blues Cruise on its January 20, 2016 voyage to St. Croix and encouraging the organizers to partner with the Department of Tourism to put on a music festival and a Blues-in-the Schools Program while in port

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WHEREAS, the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise has called on the Virgin Island and held blues music festivals on St. Croix on several occasions since 1996; and

WHEREAS, during its last visit to St. Croix in January 2012, the Blues Cruise organizers partnered with the Department of Tourism and put on a successful blues festival, which involved local bands and vendors and other businesses; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the blues festival held in January of 2012, performers from the Legendary Rhythm Cruise put on a Blues-in-the Schools Program; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2016, the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise, with its more than 2000 passengers aboard the MS Nieuw Amsterdam will call on St. Croix; and

WHEREAS, the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise is known to carry passengers from almost every state in the nation and nearly 20 foreign countries; and

WHEREAS, representatives from several national blues review magazines will be on board to cover events for their respective magazines; and

WHEREAS, inasmuch as the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise is a fully chartered cruise, the organizers of the cruise are free to select from many destinations and therefore should be encouraged to continue selecting St. Croix as a destination; and

WHEREAS, the visit of the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise will afford St. Croix an excellent opportunity to advertise and promote among the cruisers "overnight stays" in the Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, since the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise will stay in port until late evening, the Government and the tourism industry should take advantage of the opportunity to recruit cruise ship passengers and to avail the Virgin Islands of free publicity in the several national publications; and

WHEREAS, the organizers of the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise, Islands have demonstrated an interest in providing entertainment in an environment of cultural exchange and should be encouraged to put on a music festival on its January 20, 2016 visit to St. Croix; Now, Therefore,

Be it Resolved by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands, on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands, welcomes the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise to St. Croix on its January 20, 2016 voyage and encourages the organizers of the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise to explore the feasibility of putting on a music festival and conducting a Blues-in-the Schools Program, and the Department of Tourism is encouraged to consider partnering with the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise to put on an event while in port on January 20, 2016.

SECTION 2. The Executive Director of the Thirty-first Legislature shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to Mr. Roger Naber, CEO of the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise and to Mrs. Beverly Nicholson-Doty, Commissioner of the Department of Tourism.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on September 24, 2015.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 29th Day of September, A.D., 2015.



Neville James
Neville James
President

Myron D. Jackson
Myron D. Jackson
Legislative Secretary